



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the
United States Attorney
for the
District of Nebraska
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June 2, 2009

United States Attorney Joe Stecher and the Nebraska State Patrol announce the following information for the attention of the media:

Event Triggering this Release:

Today, the Honorable Richard G. Kopf sentenced Stephanie Nielsen to five years of supervised release following her conviction for embezzling more than \$70,000 of the funds of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, previously known as the Kearney State Bank. As part of the term of supervised release, Nielsen will serve a six month period of home confinement with electronic monitoring. She is also required to pay \$111,592.63 in restitution and a \$100 special assessment.

Nielsen pled guilty to acquiring credit cards without authorization from the Farmers and Merchants Bank while employed at the Bank. She then made charges and cash advances totaling \$111,592.63. She agreed to waive Indictment and enter a plea of guilty to an Information after her criminal activity was discovered.

Name of Defendant: Stephanie Nielsen

AKA:

Crime(s) Charged and Potential Penalty (A CHARGE is merely an accusation and every defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty): Bank Embezzlement, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 656. Maximum penalty is up to 30 years imprisonment, a \$1,000,000 fine, or both imprisonment and fine, up to 5 years of supervised release and a \$100 special assessment.

Specific Location of Alleged Crime: Lincoln, Nebraska

Location of Arrest:

Alleged Dollar Loss/Type and Quantity of Drug: \$111,592.63

Others Charged in Same Scheme:

Relevant Dates:

Date of Alleged Crime: October 2004 to September 10, 2007

Federal Arrest Date:

Date Complaint Issued:

Information filed Date: March 3, 2009

Initial Appearance Date: March 3, 2009

Plea or Trial and Date(s): March 3, 2009

Sentencing Date: June 2, 2009

Next Court Hearing Type and Date:

Assigned Magistrate Judge: David L. Piester

Held without Bond, or Released from Custody:

In Continuous Custody Since:

Assigned District Court Judge: Richard G. Kopf

Initials of Assigned AUSA/Preparer of THIS Release: SAR